



"Look, Listen, & Live!"

Pedestrian Safety

Common Pedestrian Mistakes

1. Stepping Off Curbs Being Unaware

- Pedestrians don't always "*Stop, look both ways, and listen*" before crossing the street.
- Connect with drivers by making *eye contact*. If they don't see you and aren't paying attention—don't step in front of them!

2. Pedestrian Screening

- Pedestrians can be hidden or "*screened*" by parked cars, shrubs, or other obstacles.
- Screening is especially true for small children.

3. Signal Faith

- Pedestrians put "*faith*" in signal lights or crosswalk lines thinking they will guard them from traffic.
- Many pedestrians are killed **INSIDE** crosswalks while being perfectly legal in the crosswalk!

4. Signal Lights

- Don't cross unless the light signals you to cross. ("DON'T WALK" or red hand.)
- Start crossing when the crossing light turns white **AFTER** you check for traffic. ("WALK" or white silhouette of person walking.)
- When the walk light flashes red, don't begin to cross. If you are already in the crosswalk, quickly finish! Don't go back because it can confuse drivers.

Visibility!

- Be Proactive. Keep your head up and stay alert
- Be Visible.
- Use a marked crosswalk when available.
- In low light, wear brightly colored clothing.
- At night, use a flashlight, flashing LED strobe lights, reflector straps, or reflectorized clothing.

Intersections, Crosswalks, & Bike Lanes

- Don't rely on painted lines alone. Make **EYE CONTACT** before you enter street and also while crossing.
- Stop at curb—*look and listen* for motor vehicles, bicycles, and other pedestrians before you enter the street.
- Look left, right, and then left again before entering the street.
- Be especially careful of vehicles turning left or right at intersections.
- From curb to curb, be defensive!
- Stay out of bike lanes. If there is a pedestrian zone — use it. If there is no sidewalk, walk against traffic on the left side of road.

*Note: This *does not* apply to bicycles; *bicycles ride with traffic*.

Traffic Lights

- Start as soon as walk light illuminates which allows for maximum crossing time, but remember to look both ways before stepping off curb!
- "*Finish on Flash*" means quickly finish crossing if the walk light starts flashing — but do not "start" crossing.
- If light starts flashing during crossing, do not get frightened and return to where you started, quickly continue to other side.

What Drivers Need to Know

As a motorist, please be courteous to pedestrians because walking is good for health and our environment!

1. Every street corner is a "crosswalk" even if it is not marked with crossing lines! The only exception is an intersection that is marked "No Crossing" by a black and white sign.
2. When a vehicle has stopped to wait for a pedestrian, no other vehicles can pass the vehicle that has stopped to wait.
3. When a school bus has stopped and has its red lights flashing, all vehicles **MUST** wait until the lights stop flashing.
4. Jay Walking is when pedestrians cross in mid-block out of any marked crossing areas even though traffic lights are on both corners. If there are not traffic lights on both corners, it is legal for pedestrians to cross in the middle of the block.
 - *If pedestrians cross mid-block, the pedestrian must yield to the vehicle, and they must not "violate the speed of the oncoming vehicle."*

Acknowledgements:

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